'Deemed-to-be-Universities' were deleted from the list of Institutions 'Deemed to be Universities' consequent to their declaration as Institutions of National Importance on 9th August, 2007.

Raising the standard of universities

363. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is keen to raise the status and standard of a few reputed universities in the country at par with world universities; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to strengthen their infrastructural facilities and to enhance their academic excellence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Special grants of Rs.100 crores each have been sanctioned for the Universities of Delhi, Mysore, Kolkata, Madras and Mumbai to upgrade infrastructural facilities during the Eleventh Plan. A proposal in respect of Panjab University is also under consideration. Provision has been made in the Eleventh Plan for incentivizing State Governments to allocate resources for strengthening infrastructure and academic excellence in State Universities.

Establishment of Guru Granth Institute

364. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of establishment of Guru Granth Institute at Amritsar which was announced by Prime Minister in 2005;

(b) the findings of the second committee appointed by the University Grants Commission (UGC) to access the proposal submitted by Vice Chancellor of Guru Nanak Dev University;

(c) how long it will take for his Ministry to issue sanction for the Institute; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the land is being provided free by the University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A proposal to set up the "National Institute of Studies in Sri Guru Granth Sahib (NISSGGS)" as a centrally funded autonomous body is under consideration. Guru Nanak Dev University has agreed to provide land free of cost for the Institute.

Establishment of Central Universities

365. SHRI BISWAJIT DAIMARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Universities established to provide opportunities to common citizens;

(b) the number of Central Universities to be established in future;

(c) whether there is any plan lo establish more Central Universities for the purpose of developing HRD in the country;

(d) the steps taken by his Ministry for improvement of modem education system;

(e) whether there is any planning to establish modern educational system like technical, management, engineering colleges etc., in North East which will provide direct job opportunities to students;

(f) whether due to absence of schools there are lots of people who are still illiterate; and

(g) if so, the reasons for not establishing enough schools in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Under the purview of this Ministry, as on date, there are 39 Central Universities established in all States, except Goa. During the remaining period of the XIth Plan, there is no proposal to establish any new Central University. The Central Government, however, proposes to establish 14 National Universities, aiming to achieve world-class standards, in identified cities so as to augment qualified human resource in the country.

(d) With a view to improving the education system, the Government has initiated academic reforms which enjoin upon the academic institutions to undertake, *inter-alia*, periodic revision of curriculum, admission procedures, examination reforms (including internal assessment), semester system, choice-based credit system.

(e) to (g) To increase the employability of students of the North-East region, the Government proposes to establish two Indian Institutes of Information Technology in Dimapur and Shillong, besides establishment of new polytechnics in the sixty-six districts of N.E. Region. Further, there is a proposal to set-up National Institutes of Technology (NIT) in such States of the region as do not have any NIT. An Indian Institute of Management has been established in Shillong recently. Each Central University (other than that in Sikkim) has been assisted to start faculties of engineering and management. School level education is also being strengthened, where required, to ensure adequate catchment for Central Universities.

Performance of SC and ST students in IITs

366. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the parameter set by the higher authorities of the Education Department for taking action against a teacher stopping his/her promotion or increment if their students don't perform well